

## Becoming a New Jersey State FFA Officer

### Preparing for State FFA Office:

[Setting up a study guide](#)  
[Agriculture Knowledge](#)  
[Self Knowledge](#)  
[Agricultural Education Knowledge](#)  
[National FFA Organization Knowledge](#)  
[Ag Education and FFA Statistics](#)  
[Role Playing Questions](#)  
[References](#)

**New Jersey References**  
[NJ Agricultural Statistics](#)  
[NJ Farm Bureau](#)  
[NJ Department of Agriculture](#)  
[NJ Department of Education](#)  
[Rutgers Cooperative Extension](#)

*Although the New Jersey FFA Association uses the National FFA Nominating Committee Process as a guideline, the Association is entitled to modify the process to better suit the needs of its members.*

### Nominating Committee Process:

Scoring of candidates will be based the “Effective Officer Competencies” developed by the National FFA Organization. Click the titled links below to review these competencies.

- [Communication](#)      Competency # 1  
*Demonstrates the effective use of various forms of communication, i.e., non-verbal, listening, written, speaking and facilitation to convey a message in both large group and one-on-one settings.*
  - 1.1 Demonstrate non-verbal skills when communicating with others
  - 1.2 Display listening skills when dialoging with others
  - 1.3 Demonstrate writing skills when communicating with others
  - 1.4 Demonstrate speaking skills in a variety of settings (including classrooms, boardrooms, auditorium, arena, small groups or one-on-one) and audiences (including business/industry, parents, school officials, FFA members, elementary and secondary students)
  - 1.5 Demonstrate facilitation skills in a workshop setting
- [Team Player](#)      Competency # 2  
*Demonstrates the ability to work in a team setting, values diversity of opinion, and works to be inclusive in the process, and is willing to put others above self.*
  - 2.1 Demonstrate the ability to work in a team pursuing a common goal
  - 2.2 Demonstrate the acceptance of differing viewpoints during group or individual interactions
  - 2.3 Demonstrate the ability to put team before self

- Areas of Knowledge Competency # 3  
*Demonstrates the ability to articulate the systemic nature of food, fiber, and agricultural, and natural resources issues, FFA and educational issues.*
  - 3.1 Demonstrate knowledge of the food, fiber, agricultural and natural resources industries and their current issues
  - 3.2 Demonstrate knowledge of the FFA and its current issues
  - 3.3 Demonstrate knowledge of America's education system and its current issues
- Organization Competency # 4  
*Demonstrates the ability to see the big picture, break large projects into smaller tasks, appropriately prioritize multiple demands, and use time management and organizational tools to produce quality results by identified deadline.*
  - 4.1 Demonstrate efficient time management
  - 4.2 Demonstrate organizational skills
  - 4.3 Demonstrate an ability to plan and prioritize
- Character Competency # 5  
*Displays a disposition that is genuine, responsible, honesty, mature, confident, respectful and has a positive outlook on life.*
  - 5.1 Displays reliability, integrity and trust among others
  - 5.2 Displays adaptable and flexible characteristics
  - 5.3 Displays a positive attitude
  - 5.4 Displays sincerity and compassion toward others
  - 5.5 Displays maturity
  - 5.6 Displays coachable, life-long learning tendencies
  - 5.7 Displays a strong work ethic
- Passion for Success Competency # 6  
*Displays personal attributes that are courageous and passionate in carrying out the FFA mission with contagious enthusiasm.*
  - 6.1 Displays self-confidence
  - 6.2 Committed to the FFA
  - 6.3 Demonstrates an energetic disposition
  - 6.4 Displays initiative in completing a task
- Influence Competency # 7  
*Demonstrates the ability to influence others through modeling expectations, building relationships, and growing the organization*
  - 7.1 Supports and motivates FFA members and partners
  - 7.2 Mentors and coaches others
  - 7.3 Committed to member representation
- Critical Thinking Competency # 8  
*Demonstrates the ability to seek out solutions and resourcefulness in finding information.*
  - 8.1 Demonstrates ability to solve problems
  - 8.2 Demonstrates ability to think critically and conduct research

## The Nominating Committee Process will consist of the following rounds:

Click on the titled link to review sample questions and practicum material.

- A. Written Exam – 50 questions
- B. Writing Exercise – based on scenario one might encounter as a State FFA Officer

**C. One-on-One Interview – up to 60 minutes**

- Candidates will have one-on-one interviews with each member of the nominating committee

**D. \* Stand and Deliver Practicum – 30 minutes**

- 20 minutes to plan, organize and prepare a spoken presentation
- 5 minutes to deliver
- 5 minutes of questions regarding topic and presentation
- Candidates will be provided with scenarios in advance of selection process
- Nominating committee will choose the scenario that will be used

**E. \* Facilitation Practicum – 40 minutes**

- 30 minutes to plan, prepare and organize using materials provided
- 10 minute presentation showcasing candidate's ability to influence through facilitated presentation in front of realistic audience
- Candidates will be provided with scenarios in advance of selection process
- Nominating committee will choose the scenario that will be used

**F. Round Robin Issues Conversation – up to 35 minutes**

- This interview round will present questions focused on key issues related to American education, agricultural education, agriculture and current events, and FFA.

**G. Personal Round – 10 minutes**

- This round will involve each State Officer candidate getting interviewed by all nominating committee members at once.

*\* One practicum area will be chosen each year (either the Stand and Deliver Practicum or the Facilitation Practicum)  
Candidates are encouraged to be prepared for both practicum areas.*

Materials found on the [National Officer Candidate Study Guide](#) website may be used and/or modified for state use.

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*The New Jersey FFA Association is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the state FFA constitution, bylaws or policies.*